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*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban  
District Council of Ulverston.*

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

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ULVERSTON,

March, 1911.

Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting to you my Thirteenth Annual Report, which deals with the health and sanitary condition of the district, over which I have the supervision as Medical Officer of Health.

**Inspection of District.**—The district is subject to systematic inspection, and special inspections are made when necessitated by the outbreak of any of the infectious diseases, or upon the receipt of any complaint of a nuisance, or condition likely to be prejudicial to the public health.

**Sanitary Condition and Progress. — Water Supply.** The water supplied to your district has, generally speaking, been of excellent quality, and there has never been any scarcity.

**Sewerage and Drainage.**--The sewers and drains have generally been found to work quite satisfactorily.

**Common Yards.**—In making an inspection of the Common yards, that is, yards upon which several tenements abut, I find that Schuster's Yard in Market Street is in bad condition, as also is Menai Bridge Yard; in the case of Dyehouse Yard, Eccles' Yard, Sharp's Yard, and Kitchen's Yard the conditions are much more satisfactory.

I should recommend that the Owners of the abutting property in Schuster's Yard and Menai Bridge Yard should have notice to properly pave the surface with blue bricks, and when this has been done it would be well if the Council, would themselves, undertake the cleansing and general oversight of all the Common Yards in the town. It can scarcely be expected that with the class of people living in the cottages abutting on these yards, that there will be any attention given to the cleansing thereof.

**Slaughter Houses.**--The Slaughter Houses have been systematically inspected, and may be said to have been kept in as good order as their position and structure will permit, which I am afraid is damning them with very faint praise.

**Factory and Workshops Act.**—This Act entails a good deal of extra work, but I think I may safely say that regular inspections are made.

**Bakehouses.**—The Bakehouses, three of which are under ground, have been regularly inspected and have been kept in good order.

**Common Lodging Houses.**—The Common Lodging Houses, three in number have been kept under careful supervision, and I am pleased to say that they have given rise to no complaint.



**Dairies and Cowsheds.**—The Dairies and Cowsheds are under the supervision of a special Inspector, who makes monthly inspections and reports to the Health Committee. One Cowshed has been practically rebuilt, increasing very considerably the air space, lighting and ventilation; the drainage too has been re-modelled.

The Owner of Colthouse Farm, has, after notice, promised to make improvements as regards the ventilation, lighting, drainage and water supply of the Cowshed. Speaking generally of the Cowsheds in the district, I think I may safely say that they are fairly well kept, but structurally they leave much to be desired, but to prescribe exact requirements as to many of them would mean entire reconstruction.

**Excrement and Refuse Disposal.**—I have every reason to believe that this important branch of sanitary administration is efficiently carried out. The house refuse being collected by the Council's workmen at regular intervals and deposited at the tip.

**Privies and Water Closets.**—I have been able to obtain figures as to the proportion of Privies to Water Closets in your district, and I find that out of 2251 dwellings 1962 have W.C's and 269 Privies.

# Summary of Work, as furnished by the Inspector

For the Year ending December 31st, 1910.

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Notices issued for Sanitary Amendments	...	...	10
Number of Premises affected	...	...	13
Letters written respecting Sanitary Works	...	...	55
Privies converted into W C's	...	...	6
Defective Privies and Ashpits	...	...	
Water Closets cleansed	...	...	
Defective Water Closets	...	...	
„ Slopstone Pipes	...	...	
Houses disinfected	...	...	19
Defective Drains	...	...	
Drains tested	...	...	
„ found defective	...	...	
Ashpits emptied	...	...	762
Loads of Ashes removed	...	...	822
Privies emptied	...	...	383
Loads of Excreta removed	...	...	757
Excreta Pails removed	...	...	62
Number of Bins emptied	...	...	39,331
„ „ Slaughter-houses	...	...	8
„ „ Inspections	...	...	96
„ „ Workshops	...	...	65
„ „ Inspections	...	...	65
„ „ Lodging Houses	...	...	3
„ „ Inspections	...	...	36
„ „ Inspections under Public Health Act	...	...	
„ „ Inspections of New Buildings	...	...	111

**JAMES STEVENSON,** *Acting Inspector of Nuisances.*

On account of the lamented death of the Inspector it has been found impossible to get the figures with any degree of accuracy.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Population (Enumerated 1901) 10,060.

„ (Estimated 1910) 10,060.

I think it is quite possible when the Census of the population is taken, as it will be in April, that it will be found that there has been a slight increase, but not sufficient to disturb, to any great extent, the calculations necessary in getting out the following statistics.

**Births.**—There have been 213 births registered during the past year, producing a birth-rate of 21·7 in the year 1909 there were 239 births, giving a birth-rate of 23·7 per 1000.

	1910	1909
In the first quarter of the year there were	64	49
„ second „ „	53	59
„ third „ „	48	63
„ fourth „ „	48	68
Totals	<u>213</u>	<u>239</u>

There were 115 Male Children born and 98 Females.

**Deaths.**—I find that there have been 124 deaths registered during the year, the death-rate being 12·3 per 1000. In the previous year there were 135 deaths, the death-rate then being 13·4 per 1000. Altogether the number of deaths occurring in the district has been 147, but this is including 23 deaths of non-resident, which have occurred in the Work-house and Hospital, mostly the former Institution.

	1910	1909
In the first quarter of the year there were	32	37
„ second „ „	32	28
„ third „ „	26	22
„ fourth „ „	34	48
Totals	<u>124</u>	<u>135</u>

There have been 70 deaths in Males and 54 in Females.

It is satisfactory to again note a decrease in the number of deaths registered.

Tabulated according to the different wards in which they arose I find the deaths to be as under:—

	1910	1909
North Ward ... ..	40	28
South „ ... ..	16	22
East „ ... ..	24	21
West „ ... ..	27	39
Central „ .. ...	17	25
Total	<u>124</u>	<u>135</u>

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
Rheumatic Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Typhoid Fever.. ..	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	1
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	2	—	—	1	8	5	13
Enteritis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1
Suicide .. ..	—	—	2	3	—	1	2	2	—
Septic Diseases .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Phthisis .. ..	4	4	10	16	6	6	10	6	14
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	5	5	5	3	8	6	—	4
Cancer .. ..	6	11	9	7	10	5	12	15	7
Bronchitis .. ..	17	28	22	13	14	16	34	25	30
Pneumonia .. ..	4	5	6	6	8	9	6	8	5
Pleurisy .. ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	4
Alcoholism .. ..	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	—	—
Premature Birth .. ..	6	3	5	4	4	5	10	4	5
Heart Disease .. ..	10	13	13	9	10	8	9	11	7
Scarlet Fever .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
Measles .. ..	4	—	2	6	—	1	—	2	—
Influenza .. ..	2	5	2	6	5	5	4	5	1
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	10
Diarrhoea .. ..	5	1	9	1	4	5	5	6	1
Child Birth .. ..	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents .. ..	5	2	4	4	9	5	3	3	9
Erysipelas .. ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Venereal Diseases .. ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases .. ..	54	53	60	60	58	63	73	76	89
Totals	<u>124</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>203</u>



**Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.**—Under this heading I include Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, leaving Phthisis or Consumption as it is commonly called, to be treated separately. I find there have been seventeen deaths from Bronchitis, and four from Pneumonia, the death-rate from Pulmonary Diseases being equal to 16·9 per cent. of the deaths from all causes. In the year 1909 there were 33 deaths from this class of diseases, equal to a death-rate of 24·4 per cent. of the deaths from all causes.

**Phthisis.**—There have been four deaths from Phthisis which is equal to a death-rate of 3·2 per cent. of the deaths from all other causes. In the year 1909 there were the same number of deaths from this cause, the death-rate being 2·9 per cent. of the deaths from other diseases.

**Infantile and Senile Deaths.**—There have been 23 deaths in Infants under one year of age, which produces an Infantile death-rate of 107·9 per 1000 births. In the year 1909 there were exactly the same number of deaths at this age period, the Infantile death-rate being 96·2 per 1000 births.

In persons over 65 years of age, there have been 40 deaths as compared with 54 in the year 1909.

**Zymotic Deaths.** From the diseases which are scheduled under this heading, I find that there have been 9 deaths, equal to a death-rate of ·89 per 1000. In the year 1909 there were 3 deaths from Zymotic diseases producing a death-rate of ·29 per 1000.

I append hereto a table giving a list of the deaths from Zymotic diseases.

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	Totals
Measles ..	4	—	2	6	—	1	—	2	—	—	6	21
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	10	—	3	18
Typhoid Fever	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	2	3	11
Diarrhœa ..	5	1	9	1	11	5	5	6	1	5	1	50
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	—	9
Diphtheria ..	—	—	2	—	—	1	8	5	13	2	—	31
Totals	9	3	14	11	13	9	14	15	26	13	13	140

**Notification of Infectious Diseases.**—Nineteen certificates have been received notifying cases of infectious diseases, viz:—nine of Diphtheria, nine of Scarlet Fever and one of Typhoid Fever. I append hereto a table showing the notifications during the last fourteen years.

YEAR	Typhoid Fever.	Diphth- eria.	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysip- elas.	Small- pox.	TOTAL.
1897	5	5	10	—	—	—	20
1898	5	3	7	—	—	—	15
1899	1	1	12	1	—	—	15
1900	6	1	5	—	1	—	13
1901	5	4	70	2	11	—	92
1902	3	111	101	—	16	—	231
1903	—	96	83	—	7	1	187
1904	3	72	22	2	16	—	115
1905	9	5	17	—	8	—	39
1906	2	2	4	1	1	—	10
1907	—	1	5	1	1	—	8
1908	—	4	5	—	1	—	10
1909	1	3	15	—	3	—	22
1910	1	9	9	—	—	—	19
Totals	41	317	365	7	65	1	796

**TABULATED ACCORDING TO THE WARDS FROM  
WHICH THE CERTIFICATES WERE RECEIVED.**

	Diphth- eria.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysip- elas.	Puerperal Fever.	TOTALS.
North Ward..	6	1	—	—	—	7
South Ward..	1	5	1	—	—	7
East Ward ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Ward ..	2	3	—	—	—	5
Central Ward	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	9	9	1	—	—	19

With the exception of an outbreak of Measles there has been no approach to an epidemic prevalence of infectious disease. It was found necessary to close the Infants School, Church Walk, and the National Schools on account of an Epidemic of Measles, which occurred in the Autumn.

In concluding my report I must thank all my colleagues for their ever ready co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

**G. H. PATTERSON,**

L.R.C.P., LOND., M.R.C.S., ENG., D.P.H., LOND.,

Medical Officer of Health.

*March 14th, 1911.*

